REMARKS

Overview

This amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Claims 17-30 are pending in this application. Claims 17, 21, 29 and 30 have been amended. The present response is an earnest effort to place all claims in proper form for immediate allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issuance are therefore respectfully requested.

Issues Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 17, 18, 20-24 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,334,315 to Ono et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,721,783 to Anderson.

The Examiner recognizes that Ono does not teach a processor "adapted for digitally processing the electrical signals to package for transmission" as required by claim 17 (Office Action, page 2, numbered paragraph 2). In addition, contrary to the Examiner's findings, Ono does not disclose transmitting the voice sound information from the first transmitter to a second receiver connected to an external connector of a host device; receiving the voice sound information at the second receiver; communicating the voice sound information from the second receiver to the host device" as requested by claim 17.

According to the Examiner's reasoning, the antenna 14 of the wireless device 4 is a receiver. This is not a reasonable interpretation of the claim language or Ono because the wireless device is clearly shown to have a receiver 1 separate and distinct from the antenna 14. Thus, there is no basis to consider the antenna of Ono to be a receiver.

However, to clarify, claim 17 has been amended to specify that the second receiver is "disposed within a housing". The antenna 14 of Ono clearly is not. This clarifying amendment further distinguishes claim 17 from Ono in that the second receiver is not a part of the host device. The second receiver of Ono is clearly within the wireless device 4.

Anderson discloses a receiver within its remote processor unit, but does not disclose a "second receiver disposed within a housing and operatively connected to an external connector of a host device." As neither reference cited discloses this claim limitation, this rejection must be withdrawn. As claims 18 and 20 depend from claim 17, these rejections should also be withdrawn.

Claim 21 has been similarly amended to now require that the second receiver and a second transmitter are "disposed within the housing." Thus, this rejection to claim 21 should be withdrawn. As claims 22-24 and 27 depend from claim 21, these rejections must also be withdrawn.

Claims 19, 25, 26, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ono and Anderson in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,181,801 to Puthuff et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 19 depends from claim 17. Distinctions between claim 17 and the combination of Ono and Anderson have already been addressed. Puthuff does not remedy the deficiencies of the combination of Ono and Anderson. Claims 25, 26 and 28 depend from claim 21, which has already been discussed. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections be withdrawn.

Claim 29 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ono in view of U. S. Patent No. 5,917,698 to Viallet and U. S. Patent No. 5,664,012 to Chen. Claim 29 has been amended thereby mooting this rejection.

Claim 30 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,721,783 to Anderson in view of Viallet. Claim 30 has been amended thereby mooting this rejection.

Conclusion

This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please charge Deposit Account No. 26-0084 the amount of \$790.00 per the attached Request for Continued Examination Transmittal. No other fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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